Prof. DR. H. Soell 502

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Report given by
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(Typed version of the handwritten original)

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22.8.1988

Indonesia and East-Timor - Visit 4.-20.August 1988

1. Four Members of the European Parliament visited Indonesia and East-Timor from August 4 to August 20, not as an official delegation but invited by the Indonesian Parliament from four different countries and four of the main groups. The opinion hereby expressed by the MEP's is a first effort to find a common position and in no way prejudices the opinion of the European Parliament. The group consisted of James Janssen van Raay (EPP, NL), Guy Guermeur (EDA,F), Beate Weber (Soc., D) and Bryan Cassidy (ED, UK). (Detailed programme attached as Appendix A)- provisional)

2. Briefing meetings were held in Jakarta with a variety of Indonesian Government officials and ministers and with the Speaker and Members of the Indonesian House Representatives (see list attached as Appendix B)

3. In East-Timor itself, the group was briefed by the Civil Governor Mario Carrascal and by the Speaker and Members of the East-Timor Regional and Representative Cou from all three political groupings GOLKAR (the ruling party), ABRI (the armed forces party) and the PDI- Indonesia Democratic Party (a small party with no ministerial Posts.

4. Since the Integration of East-Timor into the Indonesian Republic in 1976 there ha been two elections in East-Timor 1982 and 1987.

5. In 1987 out of a total electorate of approximately 300 000 it was claimed that 9 voted for one or other of the three lists of candidates.

6. In addition a meeting was arranged with 40 senior members of all departments of t Civil Administration. Among them was Agriculture, Fishing, Public Health, Women, Family Planning, Prisons, Budget, Religion, Administration.

7. The group in all these meetings raised questions of Human Rights, allegations abo disappearances and the use of torture political prisoners, the issue of trans-migration * and development.

8. The following day was Indonesia Independance Day (Aug 17) and the group was invite to attend the official ceremonies to mark it.

9. After the ceremony the authorities placed a helicopter at our disposal to visit whatever places we selected - Viqueque, Baucau werde chosen. Enroute the helicopte landed with our agreement at a village Caitui and then, to the group's astonishme returned to base at the capital.

* transfer of population

10. The strongest protests were made and in consequence the helicopter after re-fuel... took off again for the two destinations selected.

11. At Viqueque, the Commandant at the Military Post received us and showed us every... thing was asked. He also answered at the Groups questions on the level of milita... activities. There was none.

12. Asked what the military did with Fretilin adherents who came in he stated that th... were given the chance to return to their vilalges - where they were not always welcome.

13. In flight between Viqueque and Baucau, we instructed the pilot to make an unsched... stop at a remote mountain village in an area where Fretilin had once been active Laisorolai de Baixo. The headman of the village said there were no Fretilin and n... security problem. He also stated that his village was happy to be integrated into Indonesia. This was stated directly to a member of the group who understands and speaks Indonesian. Children and adults rushed spontaneously towards the Group and the escort.

14. The flight then continued to Baucau, a destination selected because of an Amnesty International report that a hotel there had been used to torture prisoners.

15. Immediately on landing we asked to be taken straight to the hotel - the Flamboyan... Up to the time of arrival, no advance indication was given to the Indonesian authorities of our wish to make this visit. After a very short visit to the marke... made at the request of local officials, we inspected the place and found nothing amiss.

16. The flight was followed on the map and there can be no question that these were th... villages actually visited.

17. We asked for the helicopter again the following day to go to Atauro Island, once the site of a notorious concentration camp. After flying all over the island, we asked to land at a small fishing village to the south of Maumeta and about 1 km from the site of the camp which is now closed and dismantled.

18. Before the trip to Atauro, we visited the HQ of the Indonesian Armed Forces in East Timor. Their role in assisting the police at education and development was explained in detail.

19. However the Group was more interested in the rules about interrogation and treatment of prisoners and suspects and what action was taken to punish members of the military who used brutality and torture. Two cases were translated to us from the HQ register of disciplinary action against two members of the armed forces citing their names, ranks and numbers, the date of the offence and the punishment. This classified information is not normally given to outsiders.

20. We also visited the local office of the International Committee of the Red Cross. A nurse there confirmed the closure of the camp at Atauro and the overall improvement of the human rights situation.

21. The Group then split up two going to see representatives of the Protestant Churches among them 3 clergy. The President of the Synod stated that since the integration with Indonesia Protestant Church enjoyed complete freedeom and had established 27 Churches in the province. They were free to preach in Portuguese, Indonesian or

any local dialect.(Some of the Group can confirm this from an own experience hav heard Mass in which both Portuguese and the local dialect were used.) He also expressed his satisfaction with integration with Indonesia. As for torture, he ha not heard of any recent cases.

22. The other two went to see the recently consecrated Roman Catholic Bishop, the fi East-Timorese to become a Bishop. He expressed serious concern about continuing cases of brutality (one as recently as 6 July 1988 at the Hotel Flamboyant in Baucau). He also statedthat the military presence in East-Timor was repressive an caused the local people to be fearful of venturing out of doors at night. He clai that troops, normally very much in evidence on the streets of the Capital, had be withdrawn for the period of our visit.

23. On the question of the Indonesian Government's Population Control Programme he believed that fathers of large families (up to 10-15 children) suffer in their carreer prospects if they work for the government.

24. The Governor in the final meeting before our departure was asked about the Bisho claims about the case of torture on July 6 and about the removal of troops from the streets of the capital. He was aware of the July 6 incident having received a complaint direct from the victim himself - an intelligence source. He categorical denied the claim that troops had been ordered off the streets.

25. The Governor is in favour of opening East-Timor to outside visitors such as touri and to outside investment.

26. The Governor, an East Timorese and the first such to become Governor, is himself Roman Catholic and endeed was described by the Bishop as a good man. He is not, however, in control of the military and has no influence in many important areas policy.

26. At the Airport, just as we were leaving we encountered a group of Foreign Press representatives visiting East Timor, at least one of whom had been waiting a long time for permission. Their visit was plainly regarded by them as a breakthrough.

Personal remark: This common report of the Group was finished on the way back to Jakarta and before the visits to the Minister of Foreign Affairs the Minister of Defense a.o. There was no possibility for the Gro to discuss the results of these talks - this will be done later.

Recommendations

I. Preamble

Indonesia plays a very important role in the equilibrium and peace in the developing countries and particularly in the Asean zone. Therefore it has to appear to be above suspicion in the international public opinion.

For these reasons it has to solve the problem which arises from the special circumstances of East Timor history.

The living conditions of the local population must be improved which is alread on the way but still requires enhancement.

In this purpose three objectives may appear essential:

- normalization
- equalization of opportunity
- sustainable development.

II. On the basis of this preamble and according to the objectives four recommendat could be made:

1. Legal problem

The international community has a duty to assist all the parties involved in t legal situation to find a just and equitable solution together.

In this issue the European Community should be ready to give a constructive an to any request from the parties involved towards peace and normalization.

Inter alia:

a) Re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Portugal is highly desirable.

b) The Government of the Republic of Indonesia, together with the Government of the Republic of Portugal could ask the European Community and the General Secretary of the United States to request some Heads of Government known as impartial in the matter to nominate a "Comité des Sages" in order to seek a solution according to the will of the population.

c) Besides these internaitonal efforts an open and friendly discussion could be enlarged between the provincial representatives and the Central Government in Jakarta in order to reach a maximum degree of autonomy within the flexibl constitution framework of the Republic and in accordance with the principles adicted in the "Pancasila" * to get to the highest possible consensus to avo futuere conflicts.

2. Human rights

a) The Province of East Timor must see its disadvantages removed as soon as possible in the Republic of Indonesia, that means in particular freedom of movement inside the territory and the right for the citizens to move in and out.

b) Any status of exception should be withdran so that all persons could obtain free access to the common lay of the Republic and - more precisely - the righ of requesting civil justice in cases of ill-treatment by the authorities.

c) As far as the situation illustrated by the facts and informations here above related does not require a status of exception, the special forces devoted to military operations should be withdrawn and the full responsibility transfer to the normal network of services.

* Pancasila: the five principles on which the Indonesian Constitution is based

d) As the diversity of ethnic groups, religions and languages expresses obvio... the richness of the nation the present freedom of choice has to be strictly maintained within the national unity.

3. Health and Education

Health and education are two of the essential conditions for development, so ... the effort to increase their level needs the expression of internal and extern... solidarity.

Therefore a substantial part of the national budget must be devoted to the province of East Timor.

For the same reason the internaitonal community has to improve its assistance to the care of the population in a significant way.

The achievement of a special programme in education, with the ambition of repeating the remarkable effort already made in the primary schools, in the se... dary system, has to be accepted as an investment into the development of East Timor.

By the same token the minimum age limit for leaving scholl should be raised to...

International institutions such as WHO and FAO could give further assistance, ... furthermore should provide all necessary information, especially statistics.

In the same way the Indonesian authorities could ask NGO's to take part in the fight against mal-nutrition, infant mortality, disease and ensure family educa... in health and hygiene.

4. Economy

As the Economy is the key to social development, Indonesia has to be helped in achieving economical and environmental conditions for progress in agriculture, appropriate industry, handicraft and services in East Timor.

That means:

a) modernization of infrastructure, esp. roads and water supply;

b) opening the province to joint ventures especially to create and support sma... and medium enterprise;

c) improvement of productivity particularly through training e.g. special scho... in agriculture;

d) creation af proper conditions for tourism;

e) preservation of natural ressources and the natural balance.

Signed by: Janssen van Raay, Cassidy, Guermeur, Weber

PROGRAM OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
MEMBERS VISIT TO INDONESIA
13 - 20 AUGUST 1988

Accomodation in Jakarta : Hotel Indonesia
Jalan M. H. Thamrin
Jakarta
P.O. 54
Telex address : 61233 HIPAJKT
61347 HIJKT

1. Sunday, 14 August 1988
   - afternoon : a. Arrival at Sukarno-Hatta International Airport - to Hotel Indonesia.
     eta : 16.15
   - evening : b. Courtesy Call to House of Representatives.
   : c. Dinner hosted by House of Representatives.

2. Monday, 15 August 1988
   - 8.30 - 13.30 : a. Briefing by Minister of Home Affairs.
   : b. Luncheon hosted by Ministry of Home Affairs.
   - 13.30 : c. Sight-seeing to Taman Mini Indonesia Indah (Indonesian Miniature Park) and visit to Armed Forces Museum, Satrya Mandala.
   - 20.30 : d. Documentary on development in Indonesia including East Timor.

3. Tuesday, 16 August 1988
   - 05.00 - 12.30 : a. To East Timor: received by Local Administration and members of Regional Representative Council.
   - evening : b. Program of Local Administration.

4. Wednesday, 17 August 1988
   - morning : Attending celebration of the 43rd Indonesian Independence Day.

5. Thursday, 18 August 1988
   - morning : Visit Ataura Island.
   - 13.30 : To West Timor (Kupang).
   - evening : Program of Local Administration.

6. Friday, 19 August 1988
   - 10.00 : a. To Bali.
   : b. Program of Local Administration.

7. Saturday, 20 August 1988
   - morning : a. To Jakarta.
   b. Debriefing with :
      - Minister for Foreign Affairs.
      - Commander of the Armed Forces/Minister of Defence.
      - Fare-well to House of Representatives.
   - evening : c. Departure

COMMITTEE FOR INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

1. DRS. THEO L. SAMBUAGA	- ACTING CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE FOR INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CO - OPERATION
2. WALTOM SILITONGA	- DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE FOR INTER - PARLIAMENTARY CO-OPERATION
3. MARCEL BEDING	- DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE FOR INTER - PARLIAMENTARY CO OPERATION
4. NY. SITI CHATIMAH SOEKAHAR	- MEMBER OF COMMITTEE FOR IN - TER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION
5. CLEMENTINO DOS REIS AMARAL	- MEMBER OF COMMITTEE FOR IN - TER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION
6. MARZUKI DARUSMAN, SH	- MEMBER OF COMMITTEE FOR IN - TER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION
7. SOEARDI	- MEMBER OF COMMITTEE FOR IN - TER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION
8. JONI HERLAUT SUJONO	- DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE I

DEWAN PERWAKILAN RAKYAT REPUBLIK INDONESIA
Jalan Jenderal Gatot Subroto - Jakarta

List of the Guests attended at a Dinner Hosted by The Deputy Speaker of DPR-RI, HE SAIFUL SULUN in honour of the visit of the European Parliamentary delegation on August 15, 1988.

1. HE R.Soekardi	-	Deputy Speaker
2. Mr.Imron Rosyadi,SH	-	Chairman of Committee I (Foreign Affairs)
3. Mr.Theo L.Sambuaga	-	Vice Chairman of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation.
4. Mr. Marcel Beding	-	Vice Chairman of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
5. Mrs.Siti Chatimah Sukahar	-	Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
6. Mr. Clementino Dos Reis Amaral	-	---------- " --------
7. Mr. Soeardi	-	---------- " ----------
8. Mr.Hartono	-	---------- " ----------
9. Mr.Gondosutoyo	-	Deputy Secretary General of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia
10. Mr.Djoko Maryanto	-	Ministery of Foreign Affairs (Director of Desk of the West Europe
11. Mr.IGN K.Sumantera	-	Minister Counsellor Indonesian Embassy in Brussels.
12. Mr.H.Siagian	-	Ministery of Home Affairs.
13. Mr.S.F.Rehatta	-	Head of Public Relations Bureau of the Secretariat General of DPR-RI.
14. Mr.Zainal Abidin AR	-	Interpreter

Protocol Department
of the Secretariat General of DPR-RI